



**Pound Middle School  
Handbook  
2023-2024**

# Pound Middle School

## Lincoln, Nebraska

On behalf of the student body, faculty, and staff, we wish to welcome you to Pound Middle School. We hope your years at Pound will be happy and productive.

We are very proud of Pound Middle School, our outstanding faculty, and the student and parent cooperation we experience. You are welcome to visit us at any time. ALL VISITORS MUST CHECK IN AND OUT AT THE SECURITY DESK INSIDE THE FRONT ENTRANCE DURING SCHOOL HOURS. We also encourage you to get involved with our Pound PTO.

We look forward to working with you during your time as a Pound parent.

Mr. Victory Haines  
Principal

**Please note:** This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations and general information about Lincoln Public Schools. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

## **NAMES OF PEOPLE YOU MAY NEED TO CONTACT**

Principal	Victory Haines
Associate Principal	Colin Clare
Instructional Coordinator	Paige Suiter
Special Ed Coordinator	Tabitha Schuster
6th Grade Counselor	Abby Berry
7th Grade Counselor	Steph Shuman
8th Grade Counselor	Lisa Halvorsen
Executive Secretary	Deb Ball
Main Office Secretary	Jocilyn Alexander
Attendance Secretary	Brenda Spieker
Registrar	Krista Smith
School Nurse	Jeanne Wolken
Health Office Tech	DeAnna Vallis

## **Pound Middle School Phone Numbers**

- Attendance Office – 402-436-1217 option 1
- Main Office – 402-436-1217 option 2
- Counselors/Registrar Office – 402-436-1217 option 3
- Health Office – 402-436-1217 option 4
- Cafeteria - 402-436-1217 option 5
- Custodial – 402-436-1217 option 6
- Fax – 402-458-3217

Voice mail is available in the main office, attendance office, health office and counseling/registrar office for your convenience.

### **Pound Middle School Web Page**

<http://pound.lps.org>

### **LPS Important Information Book**

## HISTORY

Pound Junior High School opened in the fall of 1963. The dedication ceremony was held the following spring in May of 1964. The building has 60 classrooms. This year approximately 730 students will attend Pound in grades 6-8.

The school was named after the Judge Stephen Bosworth Pound family. The Pound family was one of the most illustrious Nebraska pioneer families. The three Pound children, Roscoe, Louise, and Olivia and their father brought world-wide recognition and acclaim to themselves and Nebraska because of their many accomplishments. One of their greatest accomplishments was being outstanding educators.

The name was changed to Pound Middle School in the fall of 1993.

2009 was the first year that Pound operated with 100% of the building being air conditioned and heated by a new geo-thermal system. This, along with the addition of a new gym and 16 classrooms, was made possible by the passage of a bond election in 2005.

## SCHOOL HOURS

REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

After school activities begin at 3:00 p.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. depending on the activity and grade level.

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

The entry bell rings at 7:53 a.m. Students arriving before this time will wait outside until the bell rings. Sixth graders are to wait outside the north doors (door #4) and seventh & eighth graders are to wait at the front porch area. (door #1) During inclement weather students will be able to wait inside the building in designated areas. However, no students will be allowed in the building before 7:30 a.m. unless they are in an organized activity. **Please do not bring students to school before this time.** After school, students not in an organized activity are to leave the school grounds. Staff members do not provide general supervision after 3:15 p.m. Please make arrangements for student transportation to occur by 3:15 p.m. **When waiting for rides, students must be seated on**

**the porch or seated on the edge of the porch. Waiting or loitering by the bike rack is not permitted.**

**PLEASE OBSERVE THE “ONE-WAY TRAFFIC” PATTERNS (Northbound on 45<sup>th</sup> and Eastbound on LaSalle) AT THE BEGINNING & END OF THE SCHOOL DAY.** Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

## **DAILY SCHEDULE**

Entry Bell	7:53	Period 4	10:48 - 11:40
Period 1	8:00 - 8:52	Period 5	11:44 - 1:06
Period 2	8:56 - 9:48	Period 6	1:10 - 2:02
Period 3	9:52 - 10:44	Period 7	2:06 – 3:00

## **PLC DAYS**

Students will be dismissed at 1:40 p.m. on days when teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) on the following dates:

**August 29**

**September 26**

**October 31**

**November 28**

**December 12**

**January 30**

**February 27**

**March 26**

**April 23**

All students are to leave the grounds immediately after dismissal on PLC dates as no supervision is provided after 1:45 p.m.

## **WEATHER AND SCHOOL CLOSINGS**

The decision to close school, due to extreme weather conditions, is normally made by district office personnel before 6:00 a.m. Local radio and television stations are notified and closing information is broadcast at regular intervals from 7:00 a.m. until noon. District will also notify families of school closures by phone through the School Messenger System. Generally, school will not be dismissed early once it is in session. Parents may come to school to pick students up in inclement weather at any time during the day. We will not dismiss students by phone request.

## **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the family, unless they meet district criteria and reside in a designated LPS busing area.

## **LUNCHES**

Middle Schools have a closed campus with a 30-minute lunchtime. Students may buy a "Type A" (balanced, nutritious) lunch or a la carte items in the school cafeteria. They may also bring sack lunches. **Food brought in from outside vendors is not allowed.** Students may deposit money into their lunch account or bring cash to make purchases. Money may be placed in the student's lunch account in three ways:

- 1) designated for school lunch meals only
- 2) designated partially for school meals and partially for a la carte items
- 3) cash - students may spend money without restriction

Money may be deposited in any amount between **7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.** each school day. Deposits are made in the cafeteria serving area. A kitchen staff member must receive deposits in order for accounts to be credited.

**Please be aware that many middle school students need guidance in lunch selection. While snack items can be a great addition to a meal, they should not become the meal. Parents can help control this by designating some deposited money for meals only.**

## **CLOSED CAMPUS**

No student will be permitted to leave the school campus at noon or at any time during school hours except by office approval.

## **STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL/EMERGENCY DRILLS**

Emergency drills will be conducted periodically. The school has plans to provide for the safety of each student in the event of a fire, tornado or other emergency. Complete cooperation from all students is expected during any drill or event. Parents can learn more about LPS standard response protocol on [lps.org](http://lps.org).

## **TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS FINES**

It is the responsibility of each student to give proper care to instructional equipment, materials, and supplies. Where carelessness leads to loss or destruction of equipment or materials beyond normal use, the student should be prepared to make appropriate payments.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Students are responsible for their property. They must take care of their belongings and never leave money, clothing, textbooks, or other items lying around the building. **It is suggested that students not wear or bring expensive and valuable items to school. Personal property should be marked.** The school is not responsible for lost or stolen property.

## **LOCKERS**

A locker with a combination lock is assigned to each student at the beginning of the year. The lockers are the property of Pound Middle School and are subject to inspection by authorized school personnel.

- Do not leave valuables or money in lockers.
- Always close and lock the locker door.
- The school issues all locks. If one is lost and needs to be replaced, students will be assessed for the cost. Personal locks are not allowed.
- Lockers and the locker area should be kept neat and clean. Students will be responsible for marks or damage to the locker or lock.
- Open food/drink items/water bottles are not allowed in lockers.
- Locker trading is not allowed, only counselors or administrators may change locker assignments. **KEEP YOUR COMBINATION SECRET!**

**All lockers, desks, and equipment are property of the Lincoln Public Schools and may be searched by school officials at any time.**

## **LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**

The mission of our Pound Middle School Library is to provide an inviting learning environment that proactively supports all our students and staff with future-ready skills and a love for learning. Our library is where all students and staff turn to for research and inquiry skills, digital citizenship, information literacy, technology, and the joy of reading. It is a vital link between our school community and our ever-evolving world.

It is well stocked with current and popular print books with multiple viewpoints and respect for diversity. Students have 24/7 (home) access to ebooks, audiobooks, and databases for homework and personal curiosity needs. To access these online resources, students can visit our Pound Library website (found via the Pound Middle School website) and all passwords that are needed to work from home can be found under the "Home Access" tab. Each year, students are taught by the librarian how to navigate all of the library resources. The Librarian also collaborates with Pound teachers in all curriculum areas to enhance learning through the use of these library resources.

Library books for classroom projects and personal reading are checked out for two weeks. If a book is needed longer than two weeks, it may be renewed. Fines are not assessed for overdue items. If a student damages or loses a library item, students should kindly speak with the librarian in-person or via email so that the item can be repaired or replaced promptly for the use of other students.

The Library is also where students come if they have a Chromebook issue. Library staff will assist students in filling out a help ticket and getting them a loaner device if needed.

The Library is open for student use every day until 3:15 p.m. Students can make special arrangements with the teacher-librarian to stay later than 3:15 p.m. to work on school projects on certain days.



## **COUNSELING PROGRAM**

Pound's counseling staff consists of three counselors who are assigned to students by grade level. Counselors are concerned with the welfare, personal growth, and academic success of all students. Counselors' help students learn about themselves and help them to make appropriate decisions about the various aspects of school life. Counselors are good listeners and respect student confidence.

If a student wishes to discuss a concern with a counselor, making an appointment is easy. Students should use their grade level counselor jump code posted in classrooms to set up a time.

The Pound counselors welcome you to Pound and hope your years here are challenging and rewarding. They're here to help make that happen!

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Look for lost items in the main office and the PE area. Items left over at the end of each semester will be donated to charity.

# **COMMUNICATION**

## **DAILY BULLETIN**

A Student Bulletin is read at the start of each school day. This bulletin contains important announcements for students and teachers. A copy of the bulletin is posted in the office, cafeteria, gym and the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade hallways. The bulletin is also posted daily to our web site, <http://pound.lps.org>.

## **SCHOOL PHONES and CELL PHONES/SMART WATCHES**

Our phone lines are always open to parents. If you have a question or want to discuss anything about your student, feel free to call a teacher, counselor, or administrator. If you need to get an emergency message to a student, call our office **before 2:30 p.m.** and we will relay the message. The office will relay emergency calls from parents only.

Please try to make all arrangements for after school activities, transportation, etc., before your student leaves home in the morning. Students can use the office phone to call home *regarding school matters*, but we try to limit the use to **emergency situations**. The calls should be brief.

**Students are NOT TO USE PERSONAL CELL PHONES OR SMART WATCHES (watches with texting, calling, or gaming capabilities) INSIDE THE BUILDING AT ANY TIME. All student cell phones brought to school must be kept in lockers and turned OFF. If a student uses a personal electronic device during the school day the following sequence of consequences will be applied. (Compliance at any step will prevent movement to the next step.)**

- **Step 1: Staff will ask the student to put their electronic device in the designated storage location in the classroom. (Does not count as an electronic device infraction if the student complies with the teacher's request). If the student does not comply, move to Step 2.**
- **Step 2: The teacher will contact the office and the device will be collected and held in the main office for the remainder of the day. The incident will be logged as an electronic device infraction. If the student does not comply, move to Step 3.**
- **Step 3: If the student refuses to turn over the device, they will be removed from the classroom and escorted to the office or designated problem-solving location. The device will be held for the remainder of the day.**
- **If a student is accessing a personal electronic device in the hallway during the instructional period, the student will be returned to their classroom and asked to put their device in the classroom holder.**
- **Habitual noncompliance of the cell phone policy will result in a referral and administration implementing a personalized cell phone plan for the remainder of the semester.**

## **SCHOOLMESSENGER**

Families may also be notified of school news, special events and emergencies by phone and/or email messages through the SchoolMessenger system.

## **POUND WEBSITE - <http://pound.lps.org>**

Pound Middle School offers a website that includes contact information, daily student announcements and other helpful information.

## **REPORTING TO PARENTS**

Parents can see current grades and attendance records throughout the school year by logging in to ParentVUE through the LPS website. You should have received instructions in the mail regarding signing up for ParentVUE

Paper copies of report cards will be provided at the end of each quarter for those not signed up for ParentVUE. Progress reports will be emailed in the middle of each quarter.

## **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Thursday, Sept. 14 & Tuesday, Sept. 19	3:30-6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 6 & Thursday, Feb. 8	3:30-6:30 p.m.

LPS uses a uniform system for calculating grades in all subject areas in all grades in middle and high school.

\* 80 percent of the students' grade will be based on summative assessments and assignments (for example, tests, exams, major projects and long-term assignments that assess and evaluate student learning).

\*20 percent of the student's grade will be based on formative work (for example, homework that monitors ongoing learning). Refer to LPS Middle School Common Practices for further information about grades.

## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE AND WITHDRAWAL**

Many mailings are sent during the school year. To ensure that you receive all information please notify the registrar at 402-436-1217 (opt 3) of any changes in address that occur during the school year.

It is important to keep us informed of changes in home or work phone numbers in case of emergency. Please contact the registrar with any changes. Also, if parents will be out of town, please notify the attendance office of whom to call in case of emergency.

Students who are withdrawing from Pound to attend another school must notify the registrar approximately one week prior to the student's last day. This will allow for a smooth transition to the new school.

Please let us know if school communication should be mailed to the address of more than one parent so that we may maintain our dual mailing list.

## ***SPECIAL ACTIVITIES***

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth graders will have opportunities for after school clubs and music groups.

### **INTRAMURAL SPORTS PROGRAM**

The basic intramural program for seventh and eighth grade students consists of the following activities: soccer, volleyball, cross-country, basketball, wrestling, and track and field. Practice time is from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. each afternoon depending upon the sport and the grade level. These activities include inter school competitions usually scheduled on Saturday mornings. A schedule of current activities will be communicated to participants' parents/guardians.

Sixth graders will have periodic opportunities for after school intramural activities with other Pound students only.

ONLY STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THE ORGANIZED SPORT ACTIVITY ARE ALLOWED IN OR AROUND A PRACTICE AREA.

## ***STUDENT HEALTH POLICIES***

### **ILLNESS OR INJURY AT SCHOOL**

If a student becomes ill or injured in school, he/she should ask the teacher to go to the nurse. Students must have a pass to go to the health office unless it is an emergency. If it is determined that the student needs to go home or needs medical treatment, the parent will be contacted. Students are not to go home without permission.

### **MEDICATIONS**

If your student needs to take medication at school, LPS policy is to have the medication (prescription or over the counter) kept in the health office. We do not give any medication without a physician's order. Medications will be administered by the school nurse, health tech or office personnel only when accompanied by a written directive from the doctor and parent and brought in the original container labeled with the

physician's prescription. This includes over the counter medications. Formulary medications (ibuprofen and acetaminophen) are available at Pound. Please complete the proper health office form (included in summer mailing) if you are interested in this service.

## **MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POINT OF CONTACT**

Per recent legislation LB 705, every LPS school has a mental and behavioral health point of contact. You can find Pound's and other schools contact at:

<https://home.lps.org/socialworkers/mental-behavioral-health-points-of-contact/>

## ***ATTENDANCE***

### **STUDENT ABSENCE**

Regular attendance at school is necessary in order for students to get the most out of our instructional programs. **If your student is ill and will be absent, please call the school attendance office at 402-436-1217 (opt 1) between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. or leave a message on the attendance voice mail prior to 7:30 a.m.** Unless the attendance office is notified of the absence, a call will be attempted to verify the absence. If we have not heard from a parent within five days, the absence will remain a truancy.

Parents must inform the school of absences for illness, bereavement in the family, medical appointments, court appearance, or religious observance. Students who are absent in inclement weather when school is being held will be marked absent and treated the same as in any other absence for legitimate causes, providing proper parental notice has been received by the school. Please be aware that **not** all absences approved by a parent will be approved by the school. Medical approval (note from a doctor) may be required for extended or frequent illness.

**It is the responsibility of the student to make up schoolwork that has been missed due to any absence.** If a student has **three consecutive excused absences**, you can call the school attendance office (402-436-1217 opt 1) before 9:00 a.m. and our staff will assemble

homework assignments your student can do at home in order to keep up with class work.

Parents may request a student's absence from school for other reasonable causes. When the absence is parent approved, arrangements should be made in advance. A phone call or a note signed by the student's parent must be received at the attendance office where a form will be issued for the student to take to each of his/her teachers. Each teacher will sign the form and may give advance assignments. Then the form is returned to the attendance office. The school staff is expected to support the student's initiative to make up the work. However, students and parents should understand that often there is no way to recreate an equivalent experience for work missed.

Students who miss a class because of participation in an approved school activity are not considered absent but have been permitted to substitute one activity for another. Students will still be required to complete the class work from the missed class.

## **MEDICAL AND DENTAL APPOINTMENTS**

If a student has an appointment with a doctor or dentist during the school day, he/she needs to bring a signed note to the attendance office or parent/guardian should call at the beginning of the school day indicating the date and time that you plan to pick up the student.

## **TARDINESS**

We treat school start time much like a business treats start time. Students must be in their seats when class begins. After four "tardies," students will conference with an administrator and we will send you a note so that you are aware of the problem and can help your student arrive at school on time. Plans may be developed after a fifth tardy. Please note that all tardies to school become part of the attendance record and are not excused by a parent phone call.

## **TRUANCY**

Students gain the most from their education if they attend classes on a regular basis. All absences from school must be accounted for in each student's attendance record. Any absence that is not approved by the school will be counted as "Truancy." Truancy is defined as an absence occurring without the permission of parent/guardian and school officials. State Law LB 800 requires schools to inform the County Attorney of every student, whether of elementary, middle, or high school age who reaches twenty unapproved absences. Missing more than twenty school days or the hourly equivalent is considered "excessive." Please see the statement from the LPS Board below about excessive absence from school.

**"Based on School Board Policy (Reg.5140.1), the school may report to the county attorney when a collaborative plan involving the school, guardian, and student to reduce barriers to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and the student has accumulated more than twenty (20) absences per year. Absence codes that make up the excessive absences include: IL-Illness, PA-Parent Acknowledged, TR-Truant"**

## ***RULES AND REGULATIONS***

### **PASSES OR CALL SLIPS**

All students are required to have a pass when they are out of their room while classes are in session. These passes must be obtained from that hour's teacher. If for some reason the student feels that he/she is going to be late for the next class, the student must get a pass from the teacher in whose class he/she was detained.

Students who are requested to come to the office, counselor, nurse, or media center will receive a call slip stating when and where to report. Teachers may request students to come in after school for academic or disciplinary reasons. Students must honor ALL requests to see teachers after school.

## **WEARING APPAREL**

Our expectation is for students to be neat, clean and appropriately dressed in a manner that represents the school as a place of business. Please exercise good judgment and taste in accordance with this philosophy. **Pound administration maintains the right to determine the appropriateness or suitability of any student attire.**

- Clothing which is distracting or indecent, offensive, advertises tobacco, alcohol and/or bars, drugs, and gang activity or has profane language or pictures will not be allowed.
- All tops must have straps, no halter tops
- All tops must meet the top of the pants
- No excessively short shorts
- No undergarments are to be visible – this includes boxer shorts and bra straps.
- “Bedroom” slippers are not allowed.
- Wallet/watch chains may not be worn.
- Book bags or other large bags may not be carried during the day.
- All non-essential items must be stored in lockers upon arriving and not removed until the student leaves school.

## **DISTRICT DRESS CODE GUIDELINES (found on [lps.org](http://lps.org))**

Clothing must be appropriate for school settings in order to provide a safe and orderly environment for all students to learn. The responsibility for the dress and grooming of a student rests primarily with the student and his or her parents or guardians, although the school administration maintains the right to determine the appropriateness or suitability of any student attire.

### **Allowable Dress and Grooming**

- Students must wear clothing including both a shirt with pants or skirt, or the equivalent and shoes.
- Shirts and dresses must have fabric in the front, back, and on the sides. Fabric covering all private parts must not be see through.
- Clothing must cover undergarments and all private parts.
  - All tops must have straps.
  - All tops must meet the top of the pants.
  - Wearing pants below the waistline is not allowed.
- Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom



activities including physical education, science labs, wood shop, and other activities where unique hazards exist.

- Head wear is allowable as long as it follows other areas of the dress code (beanies may not cover ears) and the student is easily identifiable.
- Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms or safety gear.

### **Non-Allowable Dress and Grooming**

- Clothing may not depict, advertise or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances.
- Students may wear hoodies, but must keep the hood off their heads. Considerations will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or convey a particular message protected by law.
- Dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar, or plainly offensive.
- Clothing may not use or depict hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other protected groups.
- Clothing, including gang identifiers, must not threaten the health or safety of any other student or staff (examples include bandanas, gang signs).
- If the student's attire or grooming threatens the health or safety of any other person, then discipline for dress or grooming violations should be consistent with discipline policies for similar violations.
- Clothing with words, pictures, or phrases that depicts violence or intimidation may not be worn (examples include images of guns, knives and any other items generally considered to be a weapon).

### **Students who are in violation of the school dress code will:**

- Be educated on the reason this clothing is not allowed in a school setting, and when possible be given the opportunity to remove the item(s).
- Be given the opportunity to change into school issued clothing in order to find items that are appropriate to wear.

- When the first two are not viable options, the student's parent will be contacted to bring appropriate clothing for the student to change into.
- Repeated violations could result in school consequences.
- Students will not be allowed to return to classes until they are in compliance with the school dress code.

**NOTE:** Schools may communicate additional information on dress code expectations to students and parents/guardians.

## **BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to behave appropriately at all times. School conduct should not detract from or hinder our educational objectives. Many problems are eliminated if students observe a "hands off" policy, which means keeping hands off other students and their property. Public display of affection (PDA) is prohibited.

A **Support Room** is provided for disruptive students who do not respond to the teacher's request to behave. If a student is sent to a Support Room (room 105 or room 140) during class, he/she will be expected to think and write about their choices, what harm was caused, and how to solve the problem and **visit with the classroom teacher about the incident.**

**Students in In School Suspension will be dismissed at 3:10 PM.**

Everyone appreciates friendliness, courtesy and good manners. Students who practice these will find their association with others more enjoyable. Talking over concerns with teachers and counselors will help to eliminate most misunderstandings so bigger problems can be avoided.

## **INSUBORDINATION**

Insubordination is defined as disobedience of reasonable rules, instructions, and regulations. Rudeness, "talking back", and smart remarks do not have a place in school. If a student chooses to violate this rule, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken according to school policies.

## **BULLYING**

Students have the right to attend school without feeling afraid. Bullying behavior such as verbal and physical abuse, threats, and/or intimidation will not be allowed or tolerated at school. Students who choose to violate this policy may be suspended from school.

## **FIGHTING AND OTHER DISTURBANCES**

When a fight occurs, the possibility of injury to other persons or damage to property exists. For students' protection and the protection of the building, fighting or promoting a fight will not be tolerated in school, on school grounds, in the Pound neighborhood, or at school sponsored activities. Students involved in individual or group intimidation will be subject to disciplinary consequences. This includes students acting as "the back" for the main intimidator. The throwing of snowballs, rocks, or other objects also involves the possibility of injury or damage and will not be allowed. Any display of gang interest or activity is not allowed. This includes clothing, gang signs, language, and graffiti. Once again, for students' protection and that of the building, such activities will not be tolerated at school. Students who choose to violate this policy may be suspended from school.

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Sexual harassment is forbidden at Pound. Verbal harassment includes, but is not limited to, sexual innuendos, jokes, etc. Visual harassment includes writing, drawings, gestures, etc. Physical harassment may include unwelcome touching, pinching, petting, etc. Students who choose to violate this policy may be suspended from school.

## **BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, AND ROLLER BLADES**

Bike racks are provided at the southwest corner and north end of the building. Bikes should be parked only in the area provided and should be locked individually. The school is not responsible for damage done to bicycles. Skateboards, scooters, roller blades and roller shoes may NOT be brought to school. Students may not skateboard, roller blade, or ride bicycles on the front porch at ANY time.

## NUISANCE ITEMS

The possession of articles that disrupt the learning environment shall be considered nuisance items. This includes, but is not limited to flowers, pagers, laser pointers, headphones, toys, hats, wallet chains, body sprays, perfumes, colognes, fidget spinners, Bluetooth speakers, etc. Nuisance items that are brought to school may be confiscated. **Cell phones** (see page 6), **“smart watches” will not be allowed in school,** headgear, coats, and bags must be kept in lockers between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. **All flowers brought or delivered to school must be kept in the office during the school day and are not to be in the halls or lockers at any time. The school is not responsible for personal items brought to school. Please leave all valuable items at home.**

## TOBACCO/ALCOHOL

State law and school board policies prohibit carrying and/or smoking tobacco products or possession or use of alcoholic beverages on school property or at school-sponsored activities. Smoking, vaping, or alcohol use on or near school grounds will not be tolerated. Students who choose to violate this policy may be suspended, expelled or mandatorily reassigned and may be referred to the police.

If a student chooses to assist others in violating this policy or any other regulation, that student becomes an accessory and may be suspended.

## DRUGS/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

State laws and school board policies strictly prohibit the use, evidence of use, possession or transfer of illicit substances, drug paraphernalia, and look-alike drugs of any type on school property or at any school sponsored activity. If a student chooses to violate this policy he/she may be suspended, expelled, or mandatorily reassigned and referred to the appropriate legal authorities. Students should notify their teacher, counselor, or administrator of a suspected controlled substance/drug that is in the building.

## TECHNOLOGY USE

Each time students use LPS devices they agree to the RUA (Responsible Users Agreement). Students and Parents should review this in the LPS Important Information booklet found on [lps.org](http://lps.org). Violations of this agreement are subject to disciplinary action as determined by administration.

## GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS AT SCHOOL EVENTS

- School events include, but are not limited to, any LPS sponsored contests and/or events
- Students are to arrange for rides to pick them up immediately at the end of the event.
- A student who leaves an event may NOT return.
- Students MUST be appropriately dressed.
- Profane or abusive language will NOT be tolerated.
- NO alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or drugs of any kind are allowed.
- Students should adhere to a "hands-off" policy in general to alleviate pushing, shoving, or fighting, and exercise restraint in regard to public display of affection.
- Students are expected to be respectful of all adults in charge.
- A disruptive student may be asked to leave the event and his/her parents will be contacted.
- Only Pound students may attend Pound school only social events.
- Students may attend vocal or instrumental concerts only if they have a sibling participating and their own parent accompanies them.

## LPS EXPECTATIONS AT HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY EVENTS

- LPS elementary and middle school students are **required to attend LPS high school athletic/activity events with adult family members and/or a paying responsible adult and must remain under their supervision during the event.**
- LPS elementary and middle school students are expected to follow the directions of event staff and the public address announcer. Any students unable to follow directions will be asked to leave.

- Students will not be allowed to re-enter the event without pay. Passes only allow one entry per event.
- School rules apply at all LPS athletic/activity events. Violations to the [Rights and Responsibilities of Students](#) may result in disciplinary action for students.
- LPS elementary and middle school students must remain seated in designated areas during events.
- LPS elementary and middle school students are not allowed to loiter or run around in concourses, concessions and/or restroom areas.
- No outside food is allowed to be brought into LPS high school athletic/activity venues; however, a wide range of delicious concessions are available at most events. Food and drink must be consumed in the seating area of the venues.
- LPS elementary and middle school students are expected to leave with family members and/or a paying responsible adult immediately following the conclusion of an event, or if students are asked to leave early.